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Atty. Dkt. No. 040302-0280

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shinji ASANO et al.
Title: HIGH-STRENGTH RACE AND
METHOD OF PRODUCING THE
SAME
Appl. No.: 09/996,597
Filing Date: 11/30/2001
Examiner: D. Yee
Art Unit: 1742

8/13
RUC
09/10/03

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Mail Stop FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 31, 2003, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicant has enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows:

09/04/2003 DTESSEM1 00000045 09996597

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